GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
PLANNING
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1432
ANSWERED ON:26.02.2003
ISLAND DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL
AVSM, BRIG.(RETD.) KAMAKHYA PRASAD SINGH DEO;SRIPRAKASH JAISWAL

Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the meeting of the Island Development Council (IDC) for the Andaman and Nicobar Islands and Lakshadweep was organised recently after a lapse of around six years;

(b) if so, the reasons for holding this meeting after such a long time;

(c) the outcome of the meeting; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government so far to ensure ecologically sustainable development of the region?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS & PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTY OF PLANNING AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND SPACE (SHRI MOOKHERJEE)

(a): Yes, Sir. The meeting of the Island Development Authority (IDA) for the Andaman & Nicobar Islands and Lakshadweep was organised on 19th January 2003 after around six years.

(b): Meetings of the high level Island Development Authority (IDA) had been fixed in 1997 and 2001, but due to unavoidable circumstances, these had to be postponed. Three meetings of the Standing Committee of IDA have however been held in the interim period.

(c) : The IDA decided to entrust the Standing Committee of Secretaries with the time- bound responsibility of developing and recommending a policy for development of tourism, fisheries, high-value agriculture and hydro-carbon energy resources in these Islands that harmonises the need to meet developmental aspirations with environmental and strategic concerns.

(d) :During the meetings of the IDA and its Standing Committee, as well as in the annual discussions on the State Plans of the Islands, care is taken to ensure that ecologically sustainable schemes are promoted for the development of the region.